

REMARKS

The Section 112 Rejections and Objections to claims 1 and 18

The Examiner objected to claims 1 and 18 due to informalities in these claims. Similarly, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, based on informalities. Applicant believes the amendments to claims 1 and 18 will satisfy and overcome the Examiner's objections and rejections. These amendments have been made to clarify the text of claims 1 and 18 and are unrelated to the patentability of these claims.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections and rejections mentioned above.

The Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1-15, 17-32 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,449,496 to Beith et al ("Beith"). Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Beith does not disclose: (a) a method for permitting a subscriber to perform an action available *on a communications network* (claims 1-17); or (b) a communications system providing speech recognition functionality *to a network* (claims 18-34) as in the claims of the present invention. Further, Beith does not disclose the performance of actions *at a network* "represented by [a] spoken utterance....., wherein the action activates a control sequence *at the network* for accessing a feature available *on the network*" as in claims 1-15, 17-32 and 34 of the present invention.

Instead, Beith is directed at a 'voice recognition user interface' that is within a phone 10. Nowhere does Beith disclose that its voice recognition capabilities are *network* based.

Because Beith does not disclose each and every feature of the present invention, Beith cannot anticipate the claims of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-15, 17-32 and 34.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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